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Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANAA 01261 241429Z

72
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 /016 W
---------- 056463
R 241410Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY SANAA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5566
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANAA 1261

DEPT FOR A/SY/FO/SP

BEIRUT FOR RSS

FROM RSO

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC, MPOL, YE
SUBJECT: SPECIAL EQUIPMENT TRANSFER

REF: A) STATE 119638, B) SANAA 1213

1. THOROUGH TECHNICAL ANALYSIS REF A UNDERSTOOD AND APPRECIATED; HOWEVER, REF B WAS DEVELOPED USING PRESENT YAR CENTRAL SECURITY ARMAMENT AS DEPARTURE POINT. THESE TROOPS, AS WELL AS ALL OTHERS PROTECTING EMBASSIES HERE, ARE ONLY ISSUED BOLT ACTION RIFLES OR A FEW SKS, ALL OF 7.62 X 39 MM OR SIMILAR. THESE WEAPONS ALL BEHAVE IN MANNER DESCRIBED REF A. THE FAMILIAR "TUMBLING" ACTION OF 55 GRAIN .223 ROUND WAS THOUGHT TO PROVIDE AT LEAST SOME DECREASE IN STRAIGHT LINE PENETRATION AGAINST WALLS, CARS, ETC. WHEN COMPARED WITH 120 - 150 GRAIN SOVIET CALIBERS.

2. HOWEVER, SINCE IT IS CERTAINLY ADVANTAGEOUS TO DIMINISH YARG TROOPS USE OF HIGH-PENETRATION ROUNDS WITHIN THE COMPOUND AREA, REQUEST APPROVAL TO EXPLORE WITH CO OF CENTRAL SECURITY, POSSIBILITY OF EMBASSY ISSUING 12 GA SHOTGUNS TO ASSIGNED TROOPS. AS THE RIFLE HERE IS A SYMBOL OF YEMENI VIRILITY OR MANHOOD, WEANING TROOPS AWAY FROM THEIR RIFLES MIGHT PROVE INTERESTING.

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3. IF ABOVE PROPOSAL ACCEPTED BY YARG, I WOULD STILL REQUIRE

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SEVERAL FULL WOOD-STOCKED RIOT GUNS WITH SLINGS AS VIRTUALLY ALL YEMENIS CARRY WEAPONS WITH SLING. I PRESENTLY HAVE FIVE FOLDING STOCK REM 870P, EARMARKED FOR MSG'S, (ONE IS INOPERABLE PER SANAA 525) AND TWO WOOD STOCKED WINCHESTER 1200'S WITH SLINGS. I WOULD THEREFORE REQUIRE TWO MORE WINCHESTERS. RSO BEIRUT MAY STILL HAVE A SURPLUS OF THESE FROM EARLIER DAYS. 12 GA AMMO WILL BE SUFFICIENT TO CONDUCT FULL TRAINING AND ISSUE ETC., UNTIL FY 76 STOCKS ARE RECEIVED NEXT YEAR.

4. PLEASE ADVISE.
SCOTES

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NNN

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